<u>IN THE CLAIMS</u>

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-4. (Canceled).

5. (Cancelled).

6. (Canceled).

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein each of the first remote device and the second remote device corresponds to a portable device.

8. (Canceled).

9. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling the operation of an appliance, the method comprising:

receiving, at the appliance, first access data from memory of a first remote device, the first access data providing network access to first configuration data corresponding to a first set of user preferences on an external network;

receiving at the appliance at least a portion of the first configuration data via the network access;

configuring the appliance to a first configuration in accordance with the at least a portion of the first configuration data;

receiving, at the appliance, second access data to the appliance from a memory of a second remote device, the second access data providing network access to second configuration data corresponding to a second set of user preferences on the external network;

receiving at the appliance at least a portion of the second configuration data via the network access; and

reconfiguring the appliance to a second configuration in accordance with the at least a portion of the second configuration data,

wherein:

receiving the at least the portion of the first configuration data includes:

receiving first relay data responsive to an external network server identified in the first access data, and

receiving the at least a portion of the first configuration data made accessible via the network access by the first relay data; and

receiving the at least the portion of the second configuration data includes:

receiving second relay data responsive to an external network server identified in the second access data, and

receiving the at least a portion of the second configuration data made accessible via the network access by the second relay data.

and wherein reconfiguring the appliance includes creating
a composite of the portion of the first configuration data and the
portion of the second configuration data.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein each of
the first and second remote devices corresponds to a radio
frequency identification device.

11. (Canceled).

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein
delivering the first and second access data includes co-locating
the radio frequency identification device with the appliance.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the
first configuration data includes configuration data relating to
the appliance and configuration data relating to another type of
appliance.

14-21. (Cancelled).

22. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 12~~ _A method of_
controlling the operation of an appliance, the method comprising:
receiving, at the appliance, first access data from memory
of a first remote device, the first access data providing network

access to first configuration data corresponding to a first set of user preferences on an external network;

receiving at the appliance at least a portion of the first configuration data via the network access;

configuring the appliance to a first configuration in accordance with the at least a portion of the first configuration data;

receiving, at the appliance, second access data to the appliance from a memory of a second remote device, the second access data providing network access to second configuration data corresponding to a second set of user preferences on the external network;

receiving at the appliance at least a portion of the second configuration data via the network access; and

reconfiguring the appliance to a second configuration in accordance with the at least a portion of the second configuration data,

wherein:

receiving the at least the portion of the first configuration data includes:

receiving first relay data responsive to an external network server identified in the first access data, and

receiving the at least a portion of the first configuration data made accessible via the network access by the first relay data; and

receiving the at least the portion of the second
configuration data includes:

receiving second relay data responsive to an external
network server identified in the second access data, and

receiving the at least a portion of the second
configuration data made accessible via the network access by the
second relay data,

wherein each of the first and second remote devices
corresponds to a radio frequency identification device,

wherein delivering the first and second access data
includes co-locating the radio frequency identification device with
the appliance,

and wherein the method further ~~including~~ comprises:

reconfiguring the appliance to the first configuration
after removal of the second remote device from a vicinity of the
appliance.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, further
including measuring a time duration after the removal of the second
remote device, and wherein reconfiguring the appliance to the first
configuration occurs when the time duration exceeds a predefined
persistence period.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the
first access data includes a Uniform Resource Locator (URL)
associated with a relay server.

25.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the second access data includes an other Uniform Resource Locator (URL) associated with an other relay server.